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For Immediate Release  
November 24, 2003

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## **Funds awarded to workers displaced by foreign competition**

**Lansing** – Sen. Ron Jelinek (R-Three Oaks) today announced that \$87,450 has been awarded to the Berrien-Cass-Van Buren Michigan Works! Agency to provide funding and job search assistance for Michigan workers who lost jobs due to foreign competition.

According to the U.S Department of Labor, approximately 1,075 Michigan workers have been affected.

The money will be used to help those out of work with training, job searches and relocation assistance. Statewide, \$5.4 million was awarded to 23 Michigan Works! Agencies.

“These awards are a great boost for the workers and our economy,” Jelinek said. “Helping people get back to work will allow them to generate income and will show them we will not let foreign competition get in the way of their success.”

The awards come from the Michigan Department of Career Development, the state government agency charged with providing the skilled workforce Michigan needs to enhance and maintain its economy. The funding was awarded as a part of the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance and North American Free Trade Agreement–Trade Adjustment Assistance programs..

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